

**California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
Health And Human Services Work Group
March 2006**

Vision Statement

San Joaquin Valley residents will have the opportunity to enjoy a high quality of life as measured by timely access to necessary health care and social services, an environment that supports healthy lifestyles, and safe, nurturing communities that embrace the cultural diversity of the region.

Scope of Work

- Identify and evaluate health care coverage and access in the San Joaquin Valley and identify related workforce issues.
- Develop new strategies for health coverage targeted at regional residents.
- Work with regional partnerships to enhance outreach for the Healthy Kids programs and other children's health insurance incentives.
- Work with counties to develop regional plans to utilize Proposition 63 funds.
- Work with children's health organizations and education stakeholders to develop urban-rural partnerships on obesity prevention.

Progress to Date

The Health and Human Services Work Group (HHS Work Group) has convened three meetings in the San Joaquin Valley. HHS Work Group presenters and attendees have included participants representing San Joaquin Valley legislators, county health and human services departments, city governments, community-based organizations, health plans, and businesses. To date, the HHS Work Group has discussed the following issues:

- Federal and state laws and regulations related to health and human services programs;
- Outreach efforts to enroll eligible but uninsured San Joaquin Valley residents into Medi-Cal or Healthy Families;
- Community-based organizations as platforms to inform residents about state and local health and human services programs and to help coordinate the delivery of services;
- Innovative employer practices related to the provision of health benefits;
- Disease prevention programs and activities;
- Workforce development issues related to education and training of San Joaquin Valley residents and recruitment of personnel in critical need professions including but not limited to doctors and nurses; and,
- Obesity and overweight prevention.

The Work Group will continue to engage regional stakeholders including legislative staff, health and human services directors and health officers of the eight San Joaquin counties, community-based organizations, health plans, and others to further focus and develop HHS Work Group recommendations that will be forwarded to the Partnership.